

## Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: NEW YEAR'S POLITICAL ANNESTY; NEW SUIT AGAINST CARETAS

1. JANUARY 1 LIMA PRESS REPORTS THAT GOP HAS GRANTED ANNESTY TO LIMA BAR ASSOCIATION LAWYERS SENTENCED IN DECEMBER TO ONE YEAR PRISON TERMS FOR CRITICIZING PERU-JAPAN PIPELINE FINANCING ACCORD (LIMA 9679), AND THAT GOVERNMENT IS DISCONTINUING PROSECUTION OF INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF ORGANIZING JULY ANTI-GOVERNMENT RIOTS IN MIRAFLORES (LIMA 7904). NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORT ON YET ANOTHER SUIT AGAINST CARETAS MAGAZINE.

2. EL COMERCIO STATES THAT FOLLOWING BAR ASSOCIATION OFFICERS BENEFIT FROM GOP ANNESTY: BAR DEAN VICENTE UGARTE DEL PINO (RELEASED FROM JAIL DEC. 31), GUILLERMO BELAOCHAGA MIRANDA (WHO WAS IN A HOSPITAL), OSCAR DIAZ BRAVO (EXILED IN ECUADOR), FELIPE SALMON LA HOZ (EXILED IN ARGENTINA), HUMBERTO CARRANZA PIEDRA AND MATIAS BUENO GUZMAN (WHEREABOUTS OF LATTER TWO UNKNOWN). SENTENCES OF BAR'S FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMMISSION (LIMA 9814) ARE COMMUTED ALSO; MEMBERS ARE CARLOS BASOMBRIO PORRAS, CARLOS BALAREZO DELTA, GONZALO ORTIZ DE ZEVALLOS AND AUGUSTO CHANGANAQUI. THE FIRST THREE WERE PRESUMABLY SERVING THEIR ONE YEAR SENTENCES WHILE CHANGANAQUI APPARENTLY REMAINED IN HIDING.

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3. THE PRESS ALSO REPORTS ON LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST CARETAS,

LIMA'S ONE REMAINING INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION OF ANY POLITICAL CONSEQUENCE. IN ITS LATEST ISSUE, THE MAGAZINE NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT LAWYERS HAD TRAVELED TO CANADA TO SEEK BACK TAXES ALLEGEDLY OWED BY THE IPC, AFTER THE USG INFORMED THE GOP THAT EXXON (IPC) WOULD BE RECEIVING PROCEEDS FROM THE GREENE SETTLEMENT. AS A RESULT OF THE STORY, THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES HAS INITIATED A SUIT AGAINST CARETAS UNDER THE "FREEDOM OF PRESS STATUTE"(DEvised TO PROTECT THE GOVERNMENT'S REPUTATION) SINCE GOP CLAIMS IT ORDERED LAWYERS TO TRAVEL BEFORE NOTIFICATION OF USG PAYMENT TO EXXON. THIS IS LATEST HARRASSING MEASURE AGAINST MAGAZINE WHICH HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO COURT REPEATEDLY BY GOP AND WHOSE ADVERTISERS AND PRINTERS HAVE BEEN WARNED THAT THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH CARETAS DISPLEASES THE GOP (LIMA 8681). RATHER THAN SIMPLY CLOSE CARETAS, AS HAPPENED RECENTLY TO OTHER LOCAL PUBLICATIONS, GOP APPEARS TO HAVE OPTED INSTEAD TO SQUEEZE MAGAZINE SLOWLY OUT OF EXISTENCE.

4. LIMA BAR ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN CONSTANT CRITIC OF MANY GOP ACTIONS WHICH IT DEEMS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. IN DECEMBER 30 ELECTION FOR THE BAR PRESIDENCY, APRISTA LAWYER CARLOS FERREYROS LED THE VOTING WITH 921 OUT OF 3250 BALLOTS CAST; HE WAS FOLLOWED BY INDEPENDENT FELIPE APARICIO VALDEZ WITH 756 VOTES; PRO-GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE EZEQUIEL RAMIREZ NOVOA WAS THIRD WITH 500 VOTES FOLLOWED BY FIVE OTHER CANDIDATES. RUN-OFF WILL BE HELD BETWEEN FERREYROS AND APARICIO ON JANUARY 10. FERREYROS IS VERY LIKELY VICTOR AND MILGOV WILL NOT BE PLEASED BY HIS ELECTION, GIVEN NOT ONLY HIS APRA TIES BUT ALSO HIS OUTSPOKEN OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT. NONETHELESS, DENIED RECOURSE TO AN INDEPENDENT PRESS, THE BAR ASSOCIATION'S OPPOSITION HARDLY THREATENS GOVERNMENT.

5. MIRAFLORES ANNESTY WILL BENEFIT MANY ACCION POPULAR PARTY MEMBERS WHO WERE ACCUSED OF PROVOKING RIOTS. BAN OF ACCION POPULAR PARTY AND EXILE OF ITS PROMINENT LEADERS REMAINS IN EFFECT.  
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